

HOUSE RESOLUTION 267
By Godsey

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Blaine E. Wade, new
Chief of Police of the Bristol Tennessee Police
Department.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should honor those inimitable public servants who throughout their lives have performed their appointed duties with remarkable dexterity and unprecedented commitment, and whose professionalism and competence will serve as a benchmark for future public officials; and

WHEREAS, Chief Blaine E. Wade is one such distinguished public servant who has given unselfishly of himself, his time, and his remarkable talents to perpetuate the public good; and

WHEREAS, this gallant officer recently became Chief of Police for the Bristol Tennessee Police Department; his city and the State of Tennessee will undoubtedly continue to be safer and better places to live due to Chief Wade's honorable service; and

WHEREAS, born on July 25, 1965, in Tappahanock, Virginia, Chief Wade can trace his roots deep into Bristol's history; he continues a proud tradition of service to the community, as his great-grandfather, D.A. Wheeler, was the Town Sergeant of Goodson, Virginia, in the 1870s and the town's sole police officer; and

WHEREAS, a man who knows the immense value of education, Mr. Wade earned an Associate of Applied Science in Police Science from Virginia Highlands Community College in 1993, a Bachelor of Science in Organizational Management from Tusculum College in 1997, and a Master of City Management in 2000 from East Tennessee State University, where he was a member of Gamma Beta Honor Society; and

WHEREAS, through the years, he has increased his professional knowledge by attending the Tennessee Law Enforcement Academy, Tennessee Fire Academy, Central Virginia Criminal Justice Academy, 98th Administrative Officer's Course at the Southern Police

Institute, and 202nd FBI National Academy; he is also a Certified Law Enforcement Planner and a Certified Advanced Law Enforcement Planner; and

WHEREAS, this honorable Tennessean has protected and served the good citizens of this State in a wide range of positions; and

WHEREAS, in 1984, he joined the Bristol Tennessee Police Department as a Patrol Officer, becoming the youngest officer ever to be hired by the department; and

WHEREAS, after earning an unsurpassed reputation for professionalism and excellence, he accepted a position as a Game Warden with the Virginia Department of Game in 1990 and later earned an "Academic Distinction" award from the Central Virginia Criminal Justice Academy; and

WHEREAS, in 1991, he returned to Bristol as a Public Safety Officer with the police department; he built upon his previous outstanding reputation there and was selected to serve as an Accreditation Supervisor in 1995-96, in which position he facilitated the initial CALEA Accreditation for the department; and

WHEREAS, a standout among the many excellent members of the department, he became a Captain in 1996 and accepted the responsibility for the direction of the Criminal Investigation Division, Special Operations, and Property and Evidence; and

WHEREAS, Chief Wade is known throughout the region for his knowledge and exceptional talents, which have been recognized with such awards as the Bristol Tennessee Police Department's 1992 "Most Respected Officer of the Year" and 1995 "Officer of the Year"; he shares his ability and his time through his affiliations with the International Association of Chiefs of Police, the International City/County Management Association, the FBI National Academy Associates, the International Association of Law Enforcement Ethics Trainers, and the Southern Police Institute Alumni Association; and

WHEREAS, he is active in his community, participating in the Bristol Soccer Association and Twin City Civitan Club; he also serves as a member of the Sullivan County Hazardous Materials Subcommittee and the Board of Directors of Abuse Alternatives and as President of the Collingwood Homeowners' Association; and

WHEREAS, his professional and civic accomplishments aside, Blaine E. Wade is most grateful for the love and companionship he shares with his wife, Robin, and he is the loving father of two children, Parker and Colton; and

WHEREAS, a devout Christian, he is an active member of State Street United Methodist Church; and

WHEREAS, throughout his estimable career, Chief Wade has demonstrated remarkable ability as a law enforcement officer and official and has won the unbridled respect and admiration of his peers and the people of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, he is known as an advocate and crusader for good, responsive government and for the concerns of all Tennesseans; he is a gentleman whose talent and energy have rarely been equaled; and

WHEREAS, it is now highly appropriate that the friends and colleagues of this outstanding public servant should honor him and recognize his numerous accomplishments and contributions to our great State; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we express our heartfelt thanks and appreciation to Blaine E. Wade for his immeasurable service to Bristol and Tennessee and congratulate him on becoming Chief of Police of the Bristol Tennessee Police Department.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.